

BOAT BUILDING SECTION
U.S. COAST GUARD YARD
CURTIS BAY
Public (Restricted)

Building No. 5, the Boat Building Section, was erected in 1931. It is a tall one-story, gable roofed, steel and concrete structure with walls and roof clad in corrugated steel sheets.

No. 5 is architecturally significant as part of a group of 5 metal frame, corrugated-steel clad industrial buildings on the Yard, which reflects influences in international industrial building styles of the turn of the century, as embodied in designs by German architect Peter Behrens (1868-1940) for his Turbine Factory (1909) and other factory buildings in Berlin, and those of American architect Alfred Kahn (1869-1942). Among the prolific works of the latter designer, buildings designed for the budding automobile industry in America seem to have had the most impact on Yard building, where design features of early Kahn buildings (most notably the Ford Motor Works buildings in Detroit erected in 1913) can be detected in the design of open floor spaces unfettered by columnar support (made possible by trussed roofs); extension of interior work spaces through the addition of lofts, and high percentage of facade space dedicated to industrial windows set into steel sash. The worker and production-oriented spirit of these constructions were refined and examples of them built all over the world through their dissemination by the German Bauhaus movement of the 1920's.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Building No. 5, Boat Building Section

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

U.S. Coast Guard Yard

CITY, TOWN

Curtis Bay

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

21226

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

U.S. Coast Guard

Telephone #: 789-1600

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Curtis Bay

VICINITY OF

Maryland STATE zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Anne Arundel County Courthouse

Liber #: GW 47

Folio #: 224

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis,

Maryland STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Historic industrial buildings on the Yard are of two types: 1) steel frame structures clad in corrugated steel sheets built in the early 1930's to house boat building and repair activities; and 2) brick-veneered steel and concrete structures able, because of their advanced concept in industrial plant layout, to house multiple functions (wood-working, welding, and equipment repair activities), as well as separate administrative and support activities areas.

Both structural types replaced wood frame structures along the waterfront, a few of which dated from the opening of the Yard in 1901 but were mostly built in successive waves of Yard construction and modernization between 1906 and 1928.

The first group of metal shop buildings described in the following survey forms are:

<u>Yard Building No.</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>
16	AA-475
5	AA-476
12	AA-477
15	AA-478
11	AA-479

These buildings continue to function in their original uses. They embody high standards for their day for clean, well-lighted interior work spaces and adequate floor space for movement of machinery, workers, and manufactured products. Floor plans also include storage space for equipment and tools not in use as well as space for employees' belongings, minimal office functions, etc. This kind of design reflected a new awareness among industrial designers of the importance to production of positive worker attitudes which, it was theorized, could be aided through provision of safe and pleasant work surroundings.

The second group of brick veneered steel and concrete structures described in the following survey forms are:

<u>Yard Building No.</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>
3	AA-480
4	AA-481
66	AA-482
58	AA-483
8	AA-484

These buildings incorporate the worker-oriented design features of the above group, but here are applied to structures of a more permanent nature, and in most cases, of larger scale. These buildings are of a type built in the United States during and following World War II to accommodate the mass production needs of heavy industry, such as the Ford Motor Company plant at Detroit, and ordnance and equipment plants on military and industrial bases throughout the country and its territories.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (Description continues)

No. 7 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building No. 5, Boat Building Section, is a tall one-story steel frame gable roofed structure sheathed in "Canadian" square furrowed corrugated steel, built in 1931. No. 5 is the largest of the historic structures located on the eastern half of the yard, measuring approximately 65 x 300 feet. The interior work space is augmented with a 20 x 50 feet loft at the south end of the west wall, and balconies along the east and west walls at the south end of the building. The first floor is completely dedicated to fabrication shop space, with glue curing chamber, tool room and employee lockers and restrooms located in one-story prefabricated additions along the south, east, and west exterior facades.

The three-bay south facade has been considerably altered to accommodate the addition of a ground-to-roof roll-up corrugated metal door in the eastern end. Windows at ground and upper levels on this end have been bricked up. Two sets of 30-light (5 across, 6 down) industrial windows with reinforced frosted glass remain at loft level west of the doorway. Building No. 64, Dome Coating Chamber, is a modern one-story concrete block addition, and adjoins No. 5 perpendicularly on the west end.

The east facade of No. 5 runs parallel to the northeast bulkhead of the Cove. This facade consists of 13 wide bays with brick foundations resting on a cement slab floor. Moving northward from the southeast corner, there are wide double door entryways in the third, fifth, and seventh bays. The other bays at ground level contain groups of triple 30-light (5 across, 6 down) industrial windows as appear on the south facade. On the northern end at ground level, modern one-story prefabricated additions have been added parallel to the facade. The south end of the facade at loft level is dominated by a large air filtering unit elevated on a steel platform with steel stairs to the ground. Bays in the northern half of the facade at upper level are punctuated by windows as described on ground level.

On the west facade of No. 5, windows at ground level, except for two 15-light (5 across, 3 down) windows at the northwest corner, have been removed to accommodate a prefabricated addition covering the exterior wall at ground level. At loft level, the first eight bays from the northwest corner retain original windows as noted on the other facades. The five bays in the southernmost end of the facade are obscured by air ventilation equipment on a steel platform.

The north facade has also been considerably altered. Windows at first floor have been reduced in size to accommodate doorways, and a small window has been added between large windows at ground and loft levels. A large roll-up corrugated metal door occupies the center of the facade and its installation necessitated shortening of the upper level window above. Original windows remain in other bays at upper level.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1931

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Building No. 5, the Boat Building Section, possesses significance as one of a group of five, corrugated steel-clad, steel and concrete industrial buildings in the Yard. No. 5 replaced former shed buildings on the site and is the largest of the historic structures on the Yard. Metal industrial buildings in the Yard reflect the influence of international industrial building styles first produced on a large scale by American industrial designer Alfred Kahn (1869-1942), especially his 1910 designs for the Ford Motor Company Works. Building No. 5 has a wide open floor plan and trussed roof, allowing fabrication of large ship parts on a floor space free of columnar support. These features and the building's high percentage of wall space dedicated to windows and extension of work space through addition of lofts along the east and west walls, make the building characteristic of the worker and production oriented designs of early 20th century industrial buildings. These concepts were intensely developed and improved upon, receiving international attention with the German Bauhaus movement of the 1920's.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached continuation sheet

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached continuation sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susanne Moore, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

August 1981

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle/Shaw House

TELEPHONE

269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

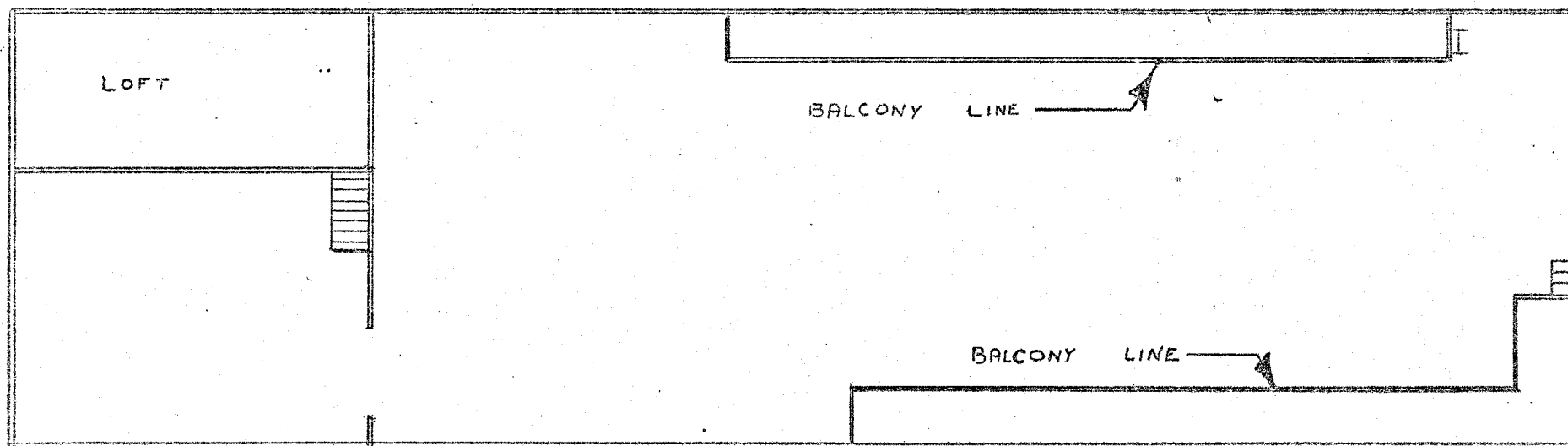
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



UNDER ROOF PLAN

BALCONY	2040	SQ. FT
LOFT	1500	SQ. FT
TOTAL	3540	SQ. FT



US, Coast Guard Yard AA-786
Curtis Bay - Building No. 5
Under Roof plan
From original on file at
Yards Graphics/Repro Office

BUILDING NO. 5
BOAT SHOP
APRIL 1974 SCALE - NONE
DRAWN T.R. SHEET 2 OF 2
JD 5-74

YARD MAP



U.S. Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay
Current Map of the Yard Bldg No. 5, AA-786



AA - 786

BOAT SHOP ANNEX

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

~~9 OF 75~~

1 of 3



AA - 786

BOAT SHOP

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHEAST PERSPECTIVE

8 OF 75

2 of 3



AA-786

BOAT SHOP

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST PERSPECTIVE

~~7 of 75~~

3 of 3



U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-786

Curtis Bay - Building No. 5

Anne Arundel County- Md

Susanne Moore

July 1981

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD

NW Corner

1/2



U.S. Coast Guard Yard

AA-786

Curtis Bay - Building No. 5

Anne Arundel County, Md

Susanne Moore

July 1981

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md

SE corner

2/2



#5 c. 1931

U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-786
Curtis Bay - Building No. 5
Interior construction photograph,
c. 1934
Original on file in Yard photo-
graphic archives